

What is claimed is:

1. A method for operating an internal combustion engine with an electrically openable and closable fuel injector (18),

wherein

- 5 the holding current for an open valve (18) is switched from a standard value to a higher value in certain operating states of the internal combustion engine, and it is reset to the standard value when the certain operating condition has ended.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1,

wherein,

- 10 during a start procedure of the internal combustion engine, the holding current for the open valve is switched from the standard value to the higher value, and it is reset to the standard value upon transition to normal operation.

3. The method as recited in one of the preceding Claims,

wherein,

- 15 when an overrun condition ends, the holding current for the open valve is switched from the standard value to the higher value, and it is reset to the standard value upon transition to normal operation.

4. The method as recited in one of the preceding Claims,

wherein,

- 20 when a fault condition "maximum delivery by the high pressure pump HDP 16" occurs, the holding current for the open valve is switched from the standard value to the higher value, and, when the fault is eliminated, the higher value is reset to the standard value.

5. The method as recited in one of the preceding Claims,

wherein

- 25 the switch between the standard value and the higher value takes place within one injection cycle.

6. The method as recited in one of the preceding Claims,

wherein

the holding current for the open valve is switched from the higher value to the standard value when the rail pressure falls below a lower threshold.

7. The method as recited in one of the preceding Claims,

wherein

5 the holding current for the open valve is switched from the higher value to the standard value when the number of injections carried out with the higher value of the holding current exceeds a maximum value.

8. An internal combustion engine with an electrically openable and closeable fuel injector (18),

10 wherein

the holding current for the open valve can be switched from a standard value to a higher value.